

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/635,616 Confirmation No. : 9593
Applicant : HORST-DIETER FISCHER, et al.
Filed : August 7, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3661
Examiner : To Be Assigned
Docket No. : 010408.52553US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : METHOD FOR THE FUEL-OPTIMIZED SELECTION OF A
THRUSTER CONFIGURATION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of these references to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background and Summary of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

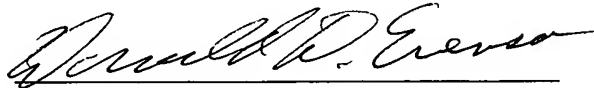
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does

Application No. 10/635,616
Information Disclosure Statement

not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

January 12, 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donald D. Evenson", written over a horizontal line.

Donald D. Evenson
Registration No. 26,160

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
DDE/mys (#298668)



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | Compleat if Known | | | |
| | | Application Number | 10/635,616 | | |
| | | Filing Date | August 7, 2003 | | |
| | | First Named Inventor | HORST-DIETER FISCHER | | |
| | | Art Unit | 3661 | | |
| | | Examiner Name | To Be Assigned | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 010408.52553US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|----|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials' | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | | |
| | AA | US- 6347262 | B1 | 02-12-2002 | SMAY et al. | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials' | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ –Number ⁴ –Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | AB | EP-0750239-A2 | 12-27-1996 | DAIMLER-BENZ AEROSPACE AG | | AB |
| | AC | EP-0977687-B1 | 05-02-2001 | DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG | | AB |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Exam iner Initial | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
| | AD | N. KARMAKAR, "A New P olynomial-Time A lgorithm for Linear Programming" <i>Combinatorica</i> 4(4) (1984) pp. 373-395. | |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.